

# **What is Emergency Management?**

Emergency Management is a young and growing field. With the creation of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in 1978, the “All Hazards” approach to Emergency Management was born, replacing the Civil Defense Department and the image of Nuclear Attack. The “All Hazards” approach is applied to natural disasters, such as severe storms, floods, earthquakes, and man-made disasters such as chemical spills.

The State agency is the Indiana Dept. of Homeland Security (IDHS) located in Indianapolis and the County’s local contact is the Jasper County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) located at the Sheriff’s Department at 2171 N. McKinley in Rensselaer, IN and can be reached at 219-866-1352.

There are four phases of Emergency Management and they are:

Mitigation – help make and implement changes within the County to lessen the impacts or prevent a disaster.

Preparedness – educate the public in preparing for all hazards and establish plans as well as practice them.

Response – coordinate the response efforts of all emergency services to the public.

Recovery – assist in making recovery efforts efficient and effective.

The Jasper County Emergency Management Plan is made up of fifteen  
Emergency Support Functions or “ESF’s.” These are:

ESF # 1 – Transportation

ESF # 2 - Communication

ESF # 3 - Public Works and Engineering

ESF # 4 - Fire Fighting

ESF # 5 - Emergency Management

ESF # 6 - Mass Care/Housing/Human Services

ESF # 7 - Resource Management

ESF # 8 - Health and Medical Services

ESF # 9 - Search & Rescue

ESF # 10 - Hazardous Materials

ESF # 11 - Animal Health

ESF # 12 - Energy

ESF # 13 - Law Enforcement

ESF # 14 - Long Term Recovery

ESF # 15 - Public Information

